GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4824
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
SARDAR SAROVER DAM
DINSHA J. PATEL;PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) in view of the recent judgment of the Supreme Court on Sardar Sarovar Project, actions being taken by the Union Government to call meeting of four beneficiary States viz. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government as well as the State Government of Gujarat to take Narmada water to the drought prone areas of Gujarat particularly to Mehsana, Patan, Surendranagar, Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Kutch-Bhuj, Amreli, Vadodara and Saurashtra districts;

(c) whether the Union Government are aware of the continuous drought situation in half of Gujarat on account of failure of monsoon in this year;

(d) if so, the assistance is provided by the Union Government to Gujarat to meet serious situation of supplying fodder to the cattle and drinking water to the human and cattle in the drought prone areas of the State; and

(e) the time by which the water of Narmada dam is likely to be made available to these water starved districts?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (e) In pursuance of the Supreme Court judgment dated 18.10.2000, Narmada Control Authority held its 61st meeting on 17.11.2000 wherein representatives of the four party states participated. An action plan to raise the height of the Narmada Dam beyond 90m., pari passu with environment and resettlement and rehabilitation clearance, at each stage of the construction, was considered in the meeting and the following time frame was finalized:

Height of the Dam and House to PAFs	Allotment of Land Construction	Completion of
100 m	December 2001	June 2002
110 m	December 2002	June 2003
121 m	December 2003	June 2004
138 m	December 2004	June 2005

Government of Gujarat have taken up construction of Narmada Main Canal as well as Kachchh & Saurashtra branch canals to take Narmada Water to the drought prone areas of Gujarat. Govt. of India were providing central loan assistance under the AIBP for the construction of canals and, so far a sum of Rs.300 crore has been released to Govt. of Gujarat. The schedule of completion of Main Canal and the above two branches is given below:

Canal Component	Schedule of Completion
Narmada Main Canal	
a) upto Saurashtra Branch off take point	December, 2001 December, 2003
b) upto Kachchh branch off take point	
Saurashtra Branch & its sub-branches	December, 2004
Kachchh Branch	Work proposed to be taken up from 2001 to 2002

Government of India are aware of the drought situation prevailing in Gujarat, however, it is the primarily the responsibility of the State Government to undertake relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. The Government of India, however, supplement the efforts of the State Government. Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2000-01 amounting to Rs.131.14 crore has already been released to the State Government for undertaking immediate relief measures.